

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00839 130745Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W
-----131533Z 094457 /44

R 130645Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8147
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0839

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM PINS LA VN
SUBJECT: REPORTED PUBLIC EXECUTION IN THAKHEK

REF: A BANGKOK A-36, B VIENTIANE 0434, C VIENTIANE 0058,
D BANGKOK A-45

1. LAO THAKHEK RESIDENT TOLD RELIABLE VIENTIANE SOURCE
LUHAT IN APRIL HE WITNESSED THE PUBLIC EXECUTION OF AN
18 YEAR OLD BOY IN THAKHEK. THE BOY WAS CHARGED WITH
BEING A "REACTIONARY". REF A REPORTED PUBLIC EXECU-
TIONS IN SAVANNAKHET IN SEPTEMBER AND PAKSE IN DECEMBER
1976. OTHER REPORTS OF LPDR EXECUTIONS WERE REPORTED
REF B AND D.

2. CALLED TOGETHER FOR "A MEETING", THAKHEK RESIDENT
REPORTEDLY SAID, PEOPLE OF HIS DISTRICT FOUND THE
FRIGHTENED BOY ON STAGE WITH THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRA-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 00839 130745Z

TIVE AND MILITARY LEADERS AND A CASKET. THE BOY WAS
REPORTEDLY ASKED TO READ ALOUD A CONFESSION THAT WAS
FIRST READ BY A WOMAN. WHEN HE DECLINED, SAYING HE
COULD NOT READ, OTHERS ON THE STAGE REPORTEDLY
SHOUTED "KILL, KILL". THE BOY WAS THEN
SUMMARILY SHOT.

3. THAKHEK RESIDENT REPORTEDLY SAID VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS WHO RECENTLY MOVED INTO THAKHEK AREA TO FIGHT RESISTANCE FORCES, REPORTED REF C, CIRCULATED AMONG THE AUDIENCE. MOREOVER, SEVERAL OF THE MEMBERS OF GROUP ON STAGE WERE ALSO REPORTEDLY VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES. THAKHEK RESIDENT, WHO IS A "KHUM" OR SECTION CHIEF IN THAKHEK AND WHO IS DESCRIBED AS A LPDR SUPPORTER, TOLD VIENTIANE SOURCE THAT HE AND MOST OF THE OTHER PEOPLE OF HIS DISTRICT BLAMED VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS FOR THE "BRUTAL" EXECUTION.

4. AFTER BOY WAS SHOT, SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED SEVERAL PEOPLE IN AUDIENCE WHO EXPRESSED SHOCK AND SYMPATHY. THESE PEOPLE WERE DETAINED FOR FOUR OR FIVE DAYS BEFORE BEING RELEASED. SHORTLY AFTER EXECUTION MANY PEOPLE REPORTEDLY FLED THAKHEK TO THAILAND.

5. THAKHEK RESIDENT TRAVELLED BY ROAD TO VIENTIANE MAY 10 AND SAID ROUTE WAS CLEAR OF RESISTANCE ELEMENT BLOCKS. HE REPORTEDLY SAID VIETNAMESE FORCES WERE SUCCESSFULLY SUPPRESSING RESISTANCE ELEMENT ACTIVITIES IN THAKHEK REGION.

CORCORAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXECUTIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENTI00839
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770169-0426
Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770559/aaaabymv.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f04cd593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2524810
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED PUBLIC EXECUTION IN THAKHEK
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, LA, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f04cd593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009